# Are fear, worries and hard times ahead for American Muslims?

By Agence France-Press, adapted by Newsela staff

11.14.16

Word Count **628**



ANNOTATE THE ARTICLE BY UNDERLING THE IMPORTANT PARTS. IDENTIFY THE THESIS STATEMENT (MAIN IDEA), THE SUPPORTING IDEA/EVIDENCE, and the CONCLUSION.

Mona Musid starred at her laptop computer in a Starbucks cafe in Dearborn, Michigan. The 25-year-old was watching a YouTube video of Donald Trump's victory speech. He was just elected president.

Dearborn is a town outside the city of Detroit. It is home to one of the largest groups of Muslims in the United States. Muslims are people who practice the religion of Islam. Many Muslim people come from the Middle East. Musid was among many in Dearborn trying to make sense of Trump's win.

"I'm just interested in what he has to say, and where it's going to go," she said. She was listening for clues in the victory speech. She wants to know what might happen in her immediate future.

**Some Longtime American Muslims Worried**

Musid said many in her large family are from Yemen. Yemen is a small country in the Middle East. They have been in the U.S. since the 1940s. They are feeling shocked and worried.

Trump used angry language in his campaign to persuade people to vote for him. He said Muslims should not be allowed to enter the U.S. He also promised "extreme vetting" of immigrants from countries that have extremist fighters. Vetting someone means to check very thoroughly to see if they're dangerous.

American Muslims are now wondering what a Trump presidency might mean, said Hazem Bata. Bata is head of the Islamic Society of North America. It is a national group that supports American Muslims.

"What I'm hearing is a mixture of fear and concern," Bata said.

**Many Non-U.S. Citizens Are "Scared"**

"Many Muslims here are not necessarily U.S. citizens. They're here legally, but they're not U.S. citizens. They're concerned. Some are outright scared."

During his victory speech, Trump spoke with a friendly tone.

"I pledge to every citizen of our land that I will be president for all of Americans," Trump said. "All races, religions, backgrounds and beliefs."

Three sisters at The Lava Lounge did not believe this, though. The Lava Lounge is a popular place for lunch in Dearborn.

Television news blared in front of the sisters. Their family is from Lebanon. The family has been in the U.S. for a long time. One sister, Alyse, said Trump's rise to power exposed "how much hatred there is within our country."

"The damage is irreversible," she said.

Trump's victory brought confusion as well as fear.

**School Kids Seek Answers**

The Muslim American Youth Academy in Dearborn is an elementary and middle school. After the election, kids at the school had a lot of questions.

"How could they elect Trump over Hillary Clinton?" asked one child to a group of other students and adults. No one offered an answer.

The effects of Trump's win were direct and immediate.

Hiba Nasser studies at Wayne State University in Detroit. She said she was afraid to leave her home Wednesday morning.

Nasser wears a hijab. A hijab is a traditional Muslim head covering for women. She was concerned that Trump's victory would encourage those who might target her. She said she is harassed because of her religion.

"People tell me I'm a terrorist, that my being in this country is wrong, that I should go," Nasser said.

However, some American Muslims in Dearborn do not think this way. Many of these people have lived in the U.S. for many years. They are less worried.

**Clinton Not Trusted Either**

Some people said they were happy with Trump's victory because they did not trust Clinton. Many of these people didn't want to share their names.

Hassan Elhassani said Trump was the lesser of two bad choices. He is not worried about Trump's words.

He came from Lebanon 17 years ago and is a U.S. citizen.

"If you are a citizen, he can't change anything."